

Mr. Walsh  
STAT

16 July 1975

OFFICE OF THE DDI

NOTE FOR THE DIRECTOR

FROM: Ed Proctor

RE : Congressional Intelligence Daily

Attached is the material you requested on a proposed Congressional Intelligence Daily.

[ ] has written a good memo on the subject and a first-rate mock-up of how the Congressional publication would look. I endorse his comments, especially that in paragraph 6 concerning the problems involved in stopping the NID. Even if we could substitute the new publication for the old, we would still run the danger of including items that would disturb some of our masters. The editors would have to be especially sensitive in selecting items for the new publication to exclude material of potential controversy between the Executive and Legislative Branches. Because we cannot be sure that we know about all such issues, we could make the same kinds of difficulties with the new publication as the old--but, perhaps less frequently. If we were overly cautious in this respect, it would become apparent to the readers and we could be criticized for this too.

If we are going to go through the trouble of terminating the NID, I would prefer to offer them periodic briefings similar to what we used to do for Nedzi. This would avoid the difficulties involved in having papers floating around.

ACTION

File: ~~OCI?~~  
Relations with Congress?

DOCI-883-75

June 24, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Current Intelligence

SUBJECT : Congressional Daily

1. There is an undeniable market for finished intelligence on the Hill. In particular there is a market for all-source daily current intelligence within the staffs of two oversight committees and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. We learned this when we tried to stop delivery of the National Intelligence Daily. If and when we do stop delivery, we might consider replacing the NID with a Congressional Intelligence Daily. This CID would be delivered to the same committees we now service and to others the Director may specify.

2. I would envision a Congressional Daily assuming somewhat the format of the Bulletin--page-size, with graphics, and a "hard" cover--but with considerably fewer pieces and with a Summary similar to the NID's. Items would be selected with an eye to current interests on the Hill. For example, an item on Turkish reaction to the US arms embargo would obviously be a starter during Congressional debate on this subject. Certainly the NIB would not be reproduced in full and the analysts' by-lines would not appear. Appropriate annexes would be included. There would be six issues a week, although Saturday's would be delivered on Monday as is now done with the NID.

3. I would assume responsibility for selecting appropriate pieces and leave the list with the night staff who would see that the books were prepared. Any changes in the Bulletin, of course, would automatically be reflected in the Congressional Daily. The Daily would be delivered by courier around 0900 just as the NID is now.

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4. I would suggest a short, pre-printed note from the Director replace the legend inside the NIB cover. It would describe the publication as an effort to keep the Congress informed and note the caveat about the articles being preliminary analysis. Considering the audience, we probably could dispense with the threat to apply criminal sanctions in case of disclosure. | ?

5. So much for theory. In practice this is going to put a strain on the already heavily loaded, small night editorial and reproduction staffs, which now have three daily publications, five daily cables, the Weekly in two versions and the occasional memorandum, speech, or briefing to prepare. I have discussed this project with the night staff who point out that most of their deadlines fall between 2:30 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. and that the staff is stretched to make these. It also would be physically difficult for the print shop to sandwich in another publication. Of course, if the Director should decide the CID is something he wants to produce, a way will be found to do it, but we would have to add at least two typists, and possibly another editor.

6. Now, having said all that, I think we are going to have a very hard time selling such a publication to the House Appropriations Committee, and we will find the road only slightly less bumpy with Senate Armed Services and Foreign Affairs. (Senate Appropriations probably would go along and I'm not sure House Armed Services really gives a damn.) We are in something of a the-lady-is-pregnant-the-marriage-must-go-forward situation. Having exposed our Hill clients to the same intelligence provided Executive Branch policy-makers--and advertised it as such--we are going to be charged with diluting the wine, or worse, with tailoring items to support the administration's legislative objectives. This is exactly the sort of flak I encountered from Messrs. Snodgrass and Preston when I suggested a separate publication during my abortive effort to turn off the NID.

7. It seems to me we have two unpleasant choices: flatly inform the Committees we are shifting to a new format and hope the storm blows over quickly; or persuade Henry that it is in his and our best interests to continue NID deliveries for the time being..

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8. While I am recommending against a Congressional Intelligence Daily. I attach a mock-up to provide some idea of what one might look like.



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CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY

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SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE